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From: Hubbard, Carolyn
Sent: Mon 3/14/2016 1:00:54 PM
Subject: FW: Flint Readout 03/12/16
[2016.03.11-Metro Monitor.xlsx](#)
[2016.03.07-03.12 Flint Michigan clips.xlsx](#)

Subject: Flint Readout 03/12/16

Assistant U.S. Surgeon General to advise mayor in Flint's water crisis

By Amanda Emery, MLIVE 03/11/16 8:28 PM [video clip]

The city of Flint is getting more federal help to aid in the city's water crisis. On Friday, March 11 Flint Mayor Karen Weaver announced the appointment of a federal public health adviser. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services appointed Assistant Surgeon General Michelle Dunwoody, a rear admiral in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, as temporary senior adviser to Weaver.

Flint Suspends Utility Billing Amid Water Crisis

By Sherry Padilla, Examiner Gazette 03/12/16

The state's slow response to the crisis has been widely criticized, with some calls for Michigan Governor Rick Snyder's resignation. The river had a reputation for nastiness. The city of Flint is suspending the mailing of the utility bills to 85,000 accounts, Mayor Karen Weaver announced Wednesday

Flint meeting examines background of city's water crisis

By Shannon Jones, World Socialist Web Site 03/12/16

The Socialist Equality Party and the International Youth and Students for Social Equality (IYSSE) held a well-attended public meeting Thursday night on the campus of the University of Michigan, Flint. Workers and young people from around the Flint area participated in the event, which the SEP called to discuss the social and political background to the Flint water crisis.

Mayor to urge Republican Congressman to support Flint water crisis funding

By Amanda Emery, MLIVE 03/11/16 9:34 PM

Flint's mayor is happy a U.S. Congressman is coming to town Saturday and she plans to urge him to support the passage of a funding package to aid in the city's water crisis. Mayor Karen Weaver plans to urge U.S. Congressman Jason Chaffetz, R-UT, to join Republican support for the funding package.

Jobs, bills, relief efforts focus of Flint town hall

By Jacob Carah, Detroit News 03/11/16 12:48 AM

If there was good to be found in Flint's water crisis, a little more may have emerged Thursday as residents gathered to learn about relief efforts and pondered how to boost the community. A town hall, designed to explain credits on the way for water bills to compensate residents for undrinkable and unusable water, also touched on job opportunities as the community struggles from a tainted water controversy.

People in Flint still don't really know who to call for help

By Kate Wells, Michigan Radio 03/11/16

The state's holding focus groups in Flint, trying to figure out whether people are getting the information they need about the water crisis. And so far, the answer is pretty clear: they're not. Harvey Hollins is running the state's response efforts in Flint. And he says the first focus group (which was held this week) was pretty unsettling.

The human toll of Flint's water crisis

By Stephanie March, ABC Australia 03/13/16

When Rhonda Kelso turned on her bathroom tap last August she nearly vomited. "It smelt like sewerage and it looked like phlegm," she says of the brown water that flowed into her sink. She wasn't the only one. For 18 months residents in the city of Flint, Michigan, had filthy dark water flowing through their taps.

Removing lead pipes may not solve Flint's water crisis

By Jiquanda Johnson, MLIVE 03/12/16 8:58 AM

The solution to fixing Flint's water crisis may be more than just simply replacing lead lines. A home on the city's north side had one of the highest lead levels in Flint, but when crews pulled the pipe on March 10, it was copper.

Virginia Tech team wrapping up testing in Flint, expects results in a week

By Lindsey Smith, Michigan Radio 03/11/16

Researchers at Virginia Tech will spend the next week comparing current lead levels to the same homes they tested back in August. Those were the first tests that demonstrated a serious lead problem. Graduate students like Anurag Mantha have been in Flint all week, tracking down people who were in the sample pool last summer, and asking if they can test again.

Chaffetz visits Flint, seeks 'candid' answers from Snyder

By Jacob Carah, Detroit News 03/12/16 4:35 PM

The Utah Republican congressman overseeing hearings on the Flint water crisis said Saturday he wants to help the city's families and a "candid assessment" from Gov. Rick Snyder when he testifies in Washington next week. "I can't imagine the families just wanting to turn on their tap water. They're paying the highest rates in the country and not getting the water," said an exasperated U.S. Rep. Jason Chaffetz, as he met with Flint leaders and toured the city's water treatment plant.

Chairman of House Oversight and Government Reform Committee tours Flint water plant

By WXYZ ABC 7 Detroit 03/12/16 1:49 PM

Rep. Jason Chaffetz, a Republican Congressman from Utah who is also the chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee was in Flint on Saturday to tour the water plant and other sites. The committee is also holding two congressional hearings related to the Flint water crisis on March 15 and 17, with Gov. Snyder and former Flint emergency manager Darnell Earley among those expected to testify.

Recall Effort in Michigan Intensifies Pressure on Gov. Rick Snyder

By Julie Bosman, New York Times 03/12/16

Gov. Rick Snyder of Michigan hired a law firm using up to \$800,000 in taxpayer money to help his administration navigate through a throng of civil and criminal investigations. Both candidates for the Democratic presidential nomination have called for him to resign. On Thursday he faces a grilling by a congressional committee in Washington. And as voters went to the polls on the state's Primary Day last Tuesday, a group led by a Detroit pastor began an effort to recall him in a statewide referendum, a repeat of the movement that in 2012 targeted a fellow Republican, Gov. Scott Walker of Wisconsin.

Snyder administration wants 1K new jobs in Flint

By AP for WZZM ABC 13 03/12/16 4:38 PM

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder's administration has a goal of creating 1,000 new jobs in Flint as a way of helping recover from the ongoing crisis with lead-tainted water. The Detroit News reports officials in Snyder's administration discussed the jobs goal Friday in a meeting of the governor's Flint Water Interagency Task Force.

Snyder Administration Wants 1,000 New Jobs in Flint

By AP for ABC News 03/12/16 1:05 PM

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder's administration has a goal of creating 1,000 new jobs in Flint as a

way of helping recover from the ongoing crisis sparked by lead in the city's water. Officials in Snyder's administration discussed the jobs goal Friday in a meeting of the governor's Flint Water Interagency Task Force, The Detroit News (<http://detne.ws/1QSIyVY>) reported.

Gov. Snyder calls for investigation of Michigan health department's handling of Flint water issues

By Ed White, Crain's Detroit Business 03/12/16 8:29 AM

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder on Friday called for an investigation of how his health department handled an outbreak of Legionnaires' disease in the Flint area as well as high lead levels among residents who were drinking tainted water from the Flint River. Snyder was briefed on an "internal review" of the Department of Health and Human Services and now wants the agency's inspector general and Michigan's auditor general to quickly launch a broader investigation, spokesman Ari Adler said.

Governor wants investigation into MDHHS in handling of Legionnaires' outbreak

By Amanda Emery, MLIVE 03/11/16 5:53 PM

The governor has called for an immediate investigation into the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services in connection to Flint's water crisis. Gov. Rick Snyder called for the joint investigation of the MDHHS to be conducted by the state's Auditor General and the DHHS Inspector General on Friday, March 11.

'Disaster' warning preceded Flint water switch

By Jonathan Oosting, Jim Lynch and Chad Livengood, Detroit News 03/11/16 7:27 PM

A memo sent to a top official in the Snyder administration before Flint began using river water in April 2014 warned that rushing the city's water treatment plant into full-time production "could lead to some big potential disasters down the road."

Rush to Flint River water worried state officials, too

By John Wisely, Detroit Free Press 03/10/16 9:07 PM

A memo circulated to top aides of Gov. Rick Snyder warned of "some big potential disasters

down the road" as a result of switching Flint's water source to the Flint River too quickly. "Bids were due in from vendors by Thursday of this week, putting a strain on the willingness of qualified vendors to participate," the memo read, referring to modifications for the city's water treatment plant. "The expedited timeframe is less than ideal and could lead to some big potential disasters down the road."

Flint water crisis lawsuits: 5 things to know

By CNN for FOX 59, 03/12/16 12:21 PM

The discovery of high lead levels in the tap water of Flint, Michigan, has unleashed a floodgate of lawsuits on behalf of aggrieved residents. Most cases emphasize the youngest victims of the man-made environmental calamity: the scores of children whose lead exposure could lead to maladies ranging from neurological disorders, such as seizures, to language and learning disabilities.

Michigan Governor Rick Snyder Faces Challenge Over Use of State Funds for Legal Defense in Flint Crisis

By Kris Maher, Wall Street Journal 03/11/16 6:41 PM

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder came under fire Friday from a group that said he violated an eight-year-old state law by requesting the state to pay up to \$1.2 million for his legal defense in the wake of Flint's water crisis.

Law professor: Flint needs victim compensation fund

By Ryan Grimes, Michigan Radio 03/11/16 [radio clip]

A lot of lawsuits have been filed over the water debacle in Flint, where it was discovered that residents have been exposed to lead-contaminated water. There might also be a connection to several cases of Legionnaire's disease that took nine lives. According to Wayne State University law professor Noah Hall, this wave of lawsuits is just the first of many.

Brief filed in suit challenging emergency manager law

By Jennifer Dixon, Detroit Free Press 03/11/16 8:59 PM

Lawyers who are challenging Michigan's emergency manager law have taken their case to a higher court. In a brief filed late Thursday with the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals, lawyers for about 20 plaintiffs said Michigan's emergency manager law "has principally been imposed on majority African-American cities and school districts" and removes "all governing power from local elected officials and transfers that power to political appointees" in violation of the U.S. Constitution.

Group: Legal fund, not taxpayers, must cover Snyder's Flint defense

By Paul Egan, Detroit Free Press 03/11/16 7:26 PM

The liberal group Progress Michigan and former Michigan Democratic Party chairman Mark Brewer said Friday that Gov. Rick Snyder is legally required to set up a legal defense fund under state law, rather than have the state pay for his outside legal representation. Brewer, who is legal counsel to Progress Michigan, conceded the Michigan Legal Defense Fund Act doesn't explicitly say that public funds can't be used to defend a public official in a criminal investigation, but he said that is the premise behind the legislation.

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